CLYDESIDE'S ANARCHIST NEWSHEET

FEBRUARY 1983

Practical Anarchy

free

JIMMY REID: CLYDE BUILT MANTLEPIECE

council 'clean up'...

OUT! DAMN SPOT

LATTER-DAY LADY MACBETHS ARE AT WORK IN GLASGOW'S CITY CHAMBERS...

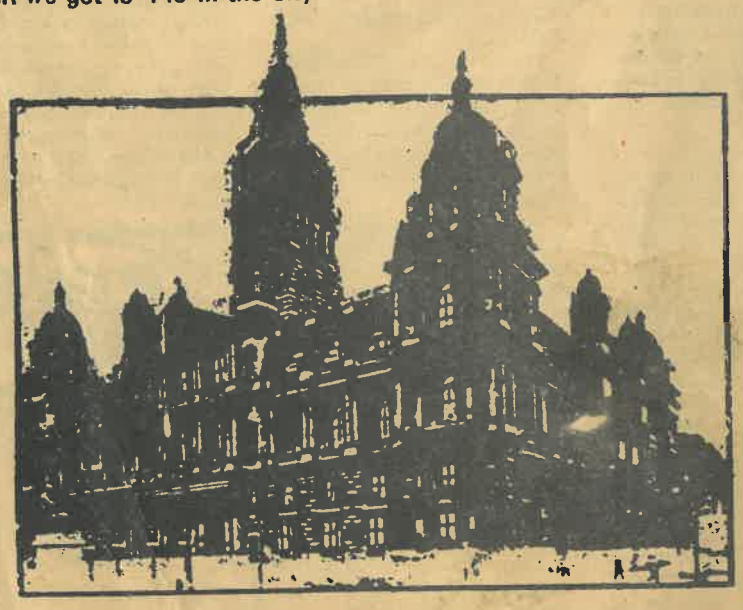
As Glasgow crumbles all around them, the Labour Council responds by washing their hands... and sandblasting their Picture Postcard Palace in George Square.

Their favourite Contractor, Lafferty the Builder, makes a quick few thousand out of the deal.

Just like Bureaucrats the world over, the Councillors are more concerned with *their* image than with anyone else's reality.

This public image exercise is reflected in the Council's pathetic 'PRIDE OF THE CLYDE' campaign where the whole world is sold the idea of a Clydeside workforce which is tame, lame and 'plays the game'.

But for Glasgow's Councillors, the name of the game is Self Interest. And while *they* are sandblasting their castles in the air, all *we* get is 'Pie in the Sky'...



CITY CHAMBERS: THE PLACE THEY CALL 'LAFFERTY TOWERS'

confessions of a dyke jumper

NOTHING IN THE HISTORY of Socialism remotely approaches the UCS work-in of 1970. And last night Jimmy Reid, the man who rescued a capitalist enterprise by the simple expedient of getting the workers to work for next to nothing, recalled the heady days of revolt.

In an exclusive interview for PRACTICAL ANARCHY Reid, now a broken man, spoke with quiet dignity of the idealism which put him where he is. "Nearly everything they print about me is lies," he wailed, "I was always a Stalinist".

Quizzed about the new Glasgow Herald school of socialists, Reid, nervously fingering a tube of air fix explained:

"No government can get away with it for long unless they can make a pretence of being socially useful. It can't impose respect for hierarchies unless, at the same time, it pretends to be the guardian of the rights of the nobodies.

"Our job in the newspapers is maintain that pretence. We have to make government appear humane and enlightened. Of course you need certain credentials to do this job. It is better if you're from a working-class background and are a card-carrying member of the Labour Party. That way you can attack real socialism without appearing to be on the side of the oppressors.

"It's really quite simple... We're bought men, every one of us".

SOILED

In the dreary and dismal recesses of Heraghty's Tavern, Reid, lean, shabby, soiled, went on:

"Discerning critics have dubbed me the Marcia Falkender of the Herald. There is more truth in

THE INSIDE STORY OF A HACK

that than I can possibly admit to. Another major influence was Peregrine Worsthorne who took a great fancy to me when he visited here. We dined at all the posh restaurants.

"He said that when he looked at me he saw precisely the road Scottish socialism would take, and the prospect, far from alarming him, was a positive delight."

PROCLAMATION OF FAITH

At one point Heraghty's Epsilioms cheered and threw sawdust into the air as Reid, his head resting on the table, opened one eye and proclaimed his faith in "the socialism of our fathers—about which" he added, "I know absolutely nothing, and care even less."

Overturning slop pails and sputum jars Reid staggered himself towards the toilet shouting: "I'm as scared of the proles as you are!" He was assisted to the street by Herald colleague Mordecai, the dapper, quip-happy Squire of Lochgelly. Both men were later taken into custody.

In an astonishing court outburst Reid yelled: "I have been called disgusting... revolting... a fraud ... a fakir... this horrible reptile. And yes, it's all true But what about the others? What about Andy Cameron? Connelly? Ruth Wypart? Gerry Fitt? Jock Stein? I WON'T BE THE FALL GUY!"

The trial continues.

THE REAL SPY SCANDAL

THE 'SUPER SNOOPERS'– the Government Spies who prey on the unemployed and single mothers– are on the prowl in Clydeside.

They chalked up a signif–icant victory over Christmas: by capturing an out–of–work man who was working casual in a Glasgow store– as Santa Claus...

But these down–market detectives don't have it all their own way. In Ferguslie Park recently the police were phoned about a dubious character lurking in the back–courts. It resulted in a Snooper being held for five hours on suspicion of child molesting.

The luckless lackey was transferred to another D.H.S.S. office.

FANTASY ISLAND

The Snoopers idea of them–selves as the Social Security equivalent of Starsky and Hutch has taken a tumble. They got their knuckles rapped for hiring a heli–copter for a 'raid' on the Western Isles, and they have just been refused permission to use special radio cars.

Any Amateur Detective interested in investigating REAL fraud would find much of interest in the Snoopers' 'success' statistics...and in their Expense Accounts.

Don't be conned if any of these cowboys appear at *your* door. Don't let them into your house; don't go to an interview alone, and above all DON'T BE INTIMIDATED!

PHIL THE FIDDLER

up an'atom

THE FASLANE PEACE Camp has been on–site since June '82. About 23 people live there, but half of them are moving to form a camp at Holy Loch (U.S. submarine base.)

Continually harassed by police and base personnel, 16 people were arrested during recent direct action when a bunker inside the base fence was occupied for several hours. Arrests of the campers are made on the slightest pretext.

Many of the campers are anarchists, all are pacifists and they all need support. Write to:

FASLANE PEACE CAMP
below St. Andrew's School
Shandon
near HELENSBURGH.

Protestors climb security fence and occupy future machine–gun post. Photo: Nick

control your own misery!

THERE IS A NEW FORM of manipulation at work in the wastelands of Clydeside...
It masquerades under "community initiative", which in total represents something quite different. The State is increasingly concerned that people are not "involved" enough in "their" system.

As a result, moves are afoot to CONTROL people in their own Housing Estates, by the creation of comm–unity businesses, festivals and the stim–ulation of the elaborate game of 'Deprivation'.

The managers of these initiatives are the trendy lefties at work in the booming Poverty Industry.

Players (community activists) compete for scarce resources by en–voking COMMUNITY consciousness. If prom–ising they get recruited to the Poverty Industry itself

To be sure, the crea–tion of some of these 'projects', especially if they are autonomous and not bogged down with self–made bureaucracy, can encourage self–confidence and a chall–enging attitude.

However the overall trend is INSIDIOUS, designed to channel creative energy towards the containment of anger and independent action.

Home Rule for Haghill (or anywhere else) isn't really a step towards practical anarchy. In fact, together with future plans to encourage new 'cottage industry' with micro technology, it re–presents an imprisonment of the need to make a BREAK with this system TO WHICH WE OWE NOTHING!

HOMES FOR HEROES?

WHO RUNS YOUR HOUSE? The bank, the council, the building society, some greedy capitalist?

If you're a tenant you may be paying for furniture good enough for the fire, or for a house which you can't heat and isn't how you'd want it if you had any real choice anyway.

Who caused the grey damp and windy schemes? Built in a rush– yes you can see that, to satisfy a housing shortage–but why so soulless? Why each house the same as the next? ... Because– maybe it looks neat on a drawing, maybe it's more profitable to build that way but certainly because the joyless bureaucrats who claim to repr–esent you have taken control of your life right away from under your noses... in your house. TAKE CONTROL OF WHERE YOU LIVE!

In Sweden thousands of people took over an army base and built their own homes with what they took and found: it's not so good now but they tried– In London you hear of people squatting to overcome the terr–ible places they were living in: WHY NOT HERE?

WHO WILL PROTECT US FROM OUR PROTECTORS?

SIR KENNETH NEWMAN, the latest Godfather at Scotland Yard has introduced a new concept to policing philosophy and practice.

With the introduction into police and media *"news–peak"* of such terminology as *"policing by consensus"*, *"police/community contract"* an effort is being made to deodorise an odious and in–creasingly bestial policing practice. The irony is how–ever, that this rather insid–ious method of duping the public, giving people a false consciousness of their relat–ionship with the police and a notion of police account–ability has been subordinate to an overtly reactive and reactionary policy, demon–strated in London recently with the barbaric attack on Stephen Waldorf.

ATTACKS

This effort to instil a public confidence in the police, assuming that it ever exist–ed, (*the police are expert mythologists*) has even re–ceived scabulous attacks from the more liberal sect–ions of the media who are finding it increasingly difficult to say something salutory about the police.

This general antipathy towards the police, which is endemic even in the trad–itionally pro–police lobby can only be further reinforced by the inanities contained in Newman's latest report, with such cosmetic measures as *"consultative committ–ees"* and *"neighbourhood watch schemes"* (spy on your own friends) .

INJURIES

Newman's own sense of community policing reached fruition on the streets of Northern Ireland where he openly advocated the use of LandRovers to disperse demonstrators, resulting in injury and death.

The grim reality is that public relationship with the police, far from being one of consensus, trust and accoun–tability is becoming more polarised with the police having both operational and indeed political autonomy.

Reforms by governments cannot diminish the growing anxiety and impotence felt by an increasing number of people being subject to arb–itrary and repressive police behaviour.

This consolidation of state control, with the police as the main protagonists is a direct challenge to all those who regard freedom as the essence of living. **"WHO WILL PROTECT US FROM OUR PROTECTORS?"** is the conscious cry of people towards the police.

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SCHOOL: A BURNING ISSUE

THE IDEA behind State Education has nothing to do with realising our poten–tial as free thinking, reason–ing and creative human beings.

Its prime function is to churn out well conditioned, manageable, processed cogs (human beings) to take their allotted place in the capital–ist machine.

This is done mainly by academic grading and select–ion which produces, courtesy of the humiliating and degr–ading exam system, capital–ism's necessary comprehen–sive 'failures' – the working class– to fill what's left of the factories and offices, plus all the miserable low paid jobs like shops and hotels. (The now permanent excess or unplaceable proles will no doubt get education for unemployment... or war) .

MANAGEMENT

As for the Comprehensive 'Successes' they go on to join the middle class: teachers, management, socia workers, etc.

The result being hierarchy, elitism and inequality remain as normal aspects of our society, with most people hating– at best putting up with– their jobs, if not their whole existence.

As well as the daily terr–orism of kids at school by the ultimate bullies and cowards– Teachers (*nice or nasty they all perform the same political function)* education is the main force, together with the authoritar–ian nuclear family in instill–ing an obedience to all authority, power, position, status and CLASS, without which the wage slave system of today could not exist.

MANIPULATION

But the real beauty of our educational institutions is the PREVENTION OF LEARNING; of how our system *really* works, how easily manipulated we are by the media (TV and Press) , how we have been denied any *real* control over our own lives (voting is a con) and how we have been programmed into accepting the impossib–ility of ourselves (us– you and me) and *not* politicos, reformist smart assed good talkers ,bringing about any real revolutionary change in OUR lives.

SCHOOL
and the politics of
OBEDIENCE

ANARCHIST OPEN MEETING
McLELLAN GALLERIES
Sauchiehall Street
Wed. 16th February 7 .45pm